THE

WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

For MONDAY, March 5, 1804.

For the WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

The Rev. Dr. Hawker's Addreſs to Chriſtian Ladies in the Introduction to the Lady's Pocket-Book for 1804.

IT is but the ſhort period of twelve revolving moons, ſince in the moſt ſettled ſtate of peace, as it then appeared to us, we addreſſed our fair countrywomen. And now, in following up our annual department, we ſend forth our little pocket-book, for their more immediate ſervice, in the moſt tremendous moment of alarm the nation ever heard.

No doubt, with gracious minds, ſo ſtriking a reverſe of circumſtances will lead to ſpiritual reflections and improvement. It can hardly need the warning voice to the truly awakened, while living in ſo changeable an atmoſphere, to be always prepared againſt a cloudy ſky. But while the wiſdom of this world furniſheth no reſources equal to the viciſſitudes of ſuch a ſtate, what a precious conſideration is it to the faithful, that there is " a pavilion" always open, " the ſecret of the Lord's tabernacle" always ready, into which " he brings his people in the time of trouble."

The preſent æra teems with no ordinary events. The hiſtory itſelf, indeed, is of no common kind. Neither modern nor ancient example can produce any thing like a parallel. The revolution of France hath not ſimply introduced a change of government and of laws, but a revolution in the very mind of man. Under pretence of liberty and equality, it proſcribes all rights, demoliſhes all order, and tears up by the roots every veſtige of regular government. In ſhort it ſcorns all reſtraints, human and divine. Nothing that is venerable, nothing that is ſacred, neither age, ſex, or character, can find immunity from

its ſanguinary purſuit. But in its determined hatred to the plea of privilege, it ſnaps aſunder every tie of virtue, honour, morality, or religion. In a word, it is a new ſpecies of tyranny, which, in its eventual conſequence, unleſs controuled by the mercy of Almighty God, threatens not merely to deſolate a province, or an empire, but the whole earth.

Bleſſed be God! amidſt this frenzy of homicides his church is ſafe. Zion cannot be ſhaken. It is founded on a rock; and we know who it is that hath ſaid, "the gates of Hell ſhall not prevail againſt it." But though the internal intereſts of the church be ſecure, we have no promiſe, in the word of God, of an exemption from the "common calamities" incident to nature; neither can the moſt faithful of the Lord's heritage aſſume confidence from hence, that their "civil privileges" ſhall not be endangered. In theſe things "there is one event to the righteous and to the wicked, to him that feareth, as to him that ſweareth an oath." As a nation, we are all embarked in one, and the ſame bottom; and if a ſtorm from Heaven ſhould ſtrand the ſtately veſſel (as, God knows, the crying ſins of the people, as well profeſſor, as profane, do but too loudly call for), very juſtly might we all be wrecked in one common ruin. The Lord, in mercy, avert this dreadful judgement from us! "for he is ſlow to anger, and of great kindneſs;" yet were he for a ſpace to deliver us up to the chaſtiſement of the ſword of our enemy, and permit thoſe ſwarms of revoluioniſts to enter our borders, which, like the locuſts, blaſt and lay waſte every thing before them; ſhould the Lord take vengeance of the preſent ſin-abounding, ſabbath-profaning age; ſhould he ſhut up all the means of grace; ſuffer our ſanctuary to be laid waſte; and "our candleſtick to be removed out of its place; would it not be a juſt viſitation on the preſent profane, and God-provoking generation?

In ſuch a criſis, when there is ſo much reaſon to fear that "the Lord hath a controverſy with his people;" while appeals are making to every heart, and in every direction, to unite in the common concern, and to endeavour to ſave their threatened country; we would turn to YOU, the pious, gracious fair ones, of our land; we would direct our attention to every rank and order of the female character, the wife, the matron, the virgin, and the widow, to come forward with a becoming patriotiſm in the intereſting cauſe; and like the "prophet's" meſſage, we would ſay, while "the bridegroom goeth forth of his chamber, let the bride go out of her cloſet," and let even the "little children" and "thoſe that ſuck the breaſts be gathered;" that their infant cries may both touch the parent's heart, and come up in the general voice of humiliation and ſorrow before the Lord, that "he may be jealous for his land, and pity his people."

And

And is there not a province of duty, peculiarly appropriate to the feminine character, in ſuch a ſtate of things as the preſent? may not the gracious woman, in every department of active life, contribute a vaſt acceſſion to the public ſtock, without aſſuming the character of the Amazon, or putting on the unbecoming dreſs, and yet more unſuitable manners, of a female warrior? Yes; much, very much, may be done, with the divine aid, in the more retired path of domeſtic endearments, by her, whoſe mind the Lord himſelf ſhall diſpoſe to acts of feminine patriotiſm. Your's it is, by the prevailing influence of female ſoftneſs, to check licentious boldneſs; to diſcountenance that earneſtneſs among our youth, in the purſuits of pleaſure; at all times unſuitable, and for the moſt part ruinous; but in the preſent moment of allowed danger, daringly preſumptuous indeed. And is it not your's alſo, in the yet more noble and important claims of religion, to ſet the bright example, in all the diverſified departments of true godlineſs, in public, private, family worſhip? In theſe, and the like offices, you may perform in a very high degree, what one calls "the charities of life," and which are indeed its trueſt charities, without going out of the province aſſigned you in ſociety. So far will this be from departing from the delicacy of the ſex, that the very exerciſe of thoſe graces, actually forms a part of female manners, and of female ſoftneſs. Your's it is to win the affections, to gain over to the intereſts of religion and virtue, the rougher feelings of the maſculine heart; to ſoothe the minds of men, under the aſperities which they are ſubject to, and which in themſelves they partake of, with thoſe beguiling endearments, for which the ſweet conciliating power ſeems to have been delegated to you. In a word, to put forth whatever of feminine graces, are your peculiar gifts, both as it refers to God, or man; and by an earneſtneſs, proportioned to the exigency of the occaſion, to call on the mercy of Heaven, for the ſalvation of your country.

Oh, then, may a gracious God diſpoſe your hearts to this ſervice! and may the God of Iſrael defend our Britiſh Iſrael, through the opening year, and in all the revolutions of it, againſt the modern *Aſſyrian* and his troops for ſlaughter; and ſay, as he did, concerning the church of old: "He ſhall not come into this city, nor ſhoot an arrow there; nor come before it with ſhields, nor caſt a bank againſt it. By the way that he came by the ſame ſhall he return, and ſhall not come into this city ſaith the Lord. For I will defend this city, to ſave it, for mine own ſake, and for my ſervant David's ſake." Iſaiah 37. Verſes 33, 34, 35.

Innocence triumphant.—Illuſtrated by the Hiſtory of Eudoſius and Corinna.

" Ubi idem, et maximus, et honeſtiſſimus, amor eſt, aliquando præſtat morte jungi, quam vitâ abſtrahi."

THE celebrated Mrs. Behn ſays, that " love is not only the moſt delightful, but the moſt noble and divine paſſion of the ſoul. It is not, when abſolutely fixed, to be reſtrained within the narrow limits of reaſon and judgement: 'tis not to be controuled by the repeated advices of the moſt ſage philoſopher, nor will the harſh, menacing expreſſions, of the moſt auſtere and obdurate, or the ſofteſt entreaties of the moſt mild and tender parents, have the leaſt effect, where that paſſion predominates." I ſhall illuſtrate this point by an inſtance, not leſs true, than faithfully related.

Eudoſius was the only ſon of a gentleman of ſome rank and fortune, his perſon was manly and graceful, his character unexceptionable. He was admired for his ſuperior underſtanding, and univerſally reſpected for his manners and politeneſs. In ſhort, whatever completes the man, was eminently conſpicuous in the famed Eudoſius.

No leſs remarkable for the moſt exquiſite charms was the fair Corinna. Such beauty, joined to an admirable diſpoſition, made her all perfection. She was the wonder and envy of the female ſex, and the conſtant ſubject and admiration of the male. Eudoſius had long entertained the moſt ardent paſſion for this charming nymph; who no leſs admired the moſt amiable virtues which he remarkably poſſeſſed. He had concealed his paſſion for a long time, knowing that her fortune (greatly ſuperior to his) was in the hands of a ſevere and rigid father, who had a rooted enmity to the family of Eudoſius. Thus was he tormented between the jarring paſſions of hope and fear. He was unhappy that he had no opportunity of revealing his ardent flame; but that unhappineſs was greatly alleviated by having heard that he was far from being diſagreeable in the eyes of the ſole object of his wiſhes.

At length the happy period arrived which relieved him from thoſe tormenting thoughts that occaſioned all his uneaſineſs. He was one day walking in a grove, near Corinna's habitation, contemplating on his lovely charmer, when he ſaw the amiable creature, at ſome diſtance, accompanied only by a maid ſervant. He was ſcarcely recovered from his ſurpriſe, when, from a thicket, a perſon ruſhed on them, by his appearance of no mean deportment, but whoſe behaviour to Corinna was ungenerous and indecent. This, Eudoſius preſently perceiving, flew with the utmoſt rapidity, aided by love and courage, till he gained the ſpot. The brute, ſeeing him advance, left Corinna, and bid defiance to Eudoſius; telling him, " if he dared approach,

proach, he would ſcourge his inſolence by running him through the body." To this Eudoſius reſolutely replied, " I am not," ſays he, " to be terrified with pompous and big words, but will defend the innocence, you were baſely endeavouring to abuſe, as long as any blood remains within me." Upon this, a duel immediately enſued; but Eudoſius (who acted with leſs temerity than his adverſary) ſoon diſarmed him, and offered him his life on condition that he ſhould aſk Corinna's pardon for his villainous behaviour, and confeſs himſelf deſervedly chaſtiſed for his baſe intentions.

Corinna who, during the fight had been in a ſwoon, now recovered, and found herſelf in the arms of her brave defender. Vario, the name of Corinna's aſſailant, begged her pardon, and confeſſed the high culpability of his conduct; upon this, he was forgiven, and deſired to walk off, with which he thought proper immediately to comply. After he was gone, Corinna thanked her generous benefactor, in the moſt polite and engaging terms. Eudoſius could not let ſuch a fair opportunity ſlip, without declaring his affection for his dear Corinna. He told her, in the moſt pathetic ſtrain, how unfortunately he had hitherto been obſtructed, by various accidents, in revealing his ardent paſſion, but, that even now, though ſuch an opportunity offered, he was almoſt afraid to declare his love, knowing himſelf ſo little deſerving ſuch ſingular merit. " I have," ſaid he, " deareſt Corinna, waited long for this happy moment, and cannot any longer conceal the flame which I have frequently, though in vain, endeavoured to ſmother. I love you, divine Corinna, I ſincerely love you. My happineſs or miſery depends upon your ſmiles or frowns. My very exiſtence is in your power. Forgive me, at leaſt pity me."

To this fond declaration Corinna gave an attentive ear, and moſt ſweetly anſwered. " Know, Sir, I am not inſenſible to your merits. The fame of Eudoſius hath long ſince reached my ears; and the preſent interview gives me no ſmall ſatisfaction. If I was before convinced of your valour and generoſity, by a thouſand tongues, what has now happened is a manifeſt demonſtration of them. I am more than ever prejudiced in your favour; and I begin to think that fame hath rather extenuated, than magnified your virtues. My ſex will pardon me, for ſo ſoon declaring to Eudoſius, that I ought to love him." Judge, reader, if you can, what joy, what ecſtacy, Eudoſius felt, at this generous declaration of all he held dear. He thanked her a thouſand times, and expreſſed his happineſs in the ſtrongeſt terms. But, alas! this happineſs was ſoon to end. The wicked Vario employed every artifice to impede the progreſs of their plighted love. The ungrateful villain uſed the baſeſt methods to take revenge even on his greateſt benefactor, for diſappointing him in the execution of his wicked deſign on the innocent Corinna.

But

But all proved ineffectual, until he wrote the following letter to her father.

"SIR,

"I ſhou/d be greatly wanting in gratitude to ſo good a friend, was I not to acquaint you with the groſſeſt intimacy ſubſiſting between Eudoſius and your lovely daughter; of which, I am ſorry to ſay it, I have lately had ocular demonſtration. Believe me, Sir, I have often ſeen them together in the grove adjoining to your manſion, where every thing that deſerves the name of decency hath been utterly excluded. However, truſt not to my account, but let them be watched to-morrow by one of your ſervants. My name ſhall be concealed 'till you have diſcovered theſe criminal proceedings; in the mean time I ſhall remain your friend, &c.

"ANONYMUS."

(To be concluded in our next.)

Obſervations on the Sap of Trees and Plants.

[By the late M. Daubenton, Profeſſor of Natural Hiſtory, and Member of the National Inſtitute in France.]

THE ſap of trees and plants is a liquid, without taſte, colour, or ſmell; it ſeems to be different from water. It belongs eſſentially to plants of every deſcription, and it has been preſumed that it performs the ſame functions with regard to plants, as the chyle, the lymph, or the blood, with reſpect to animals. Accordingly the veſſels which convey it have been termed lymphatic, or common veſſels; though they might, with more propriety, be denominated ſap veſſels, for it is certain that they contain the ſap, but it is not equally certain that this liquid can be juſtly compared with the lymph. Theſe veſſels are the fibres which form the nets of wood, but we are yet ignorant whether the fibres have a cavity or not; if they are hollow, they are then really veſſels for conveying a liquid; if they have no cavity, they may nevertheleſs form veſſels by their reunion in maſſes, or bundles, and the cavities that will be found between the fibres will be conſidered as veſſels. Whatever may be the conſtruction of theſe veſſels, it is certain that they extend along the roots of the trunk, along the branches and boughs, and that they terminate at the extremity of the leaves, the bloſſoms, and the fruits.

The quantity and the motion of the ſap increaſe very ſenſibly in ſpring, and continue, though in a leſs degree, until the rains ſucceed the heats of ſummer, as it uſually happens in the month of Auguſt. At that time the ſap reſumes its activity, and it is uſually termed the Auguſt ſap. In winter, however, the motion of this liquid ſeems to ceaſe, though it ſtill produces

ſenſible

ſenſible effects in the roots and buds of plants. It is certain that the ſap has a kind of motion in its veſſels; and many experiments have been made with a view to aſcertain, whether it was a circulation reſembling that of the blood in animals, or whether it was only a vertical courſe from top to bottom, or from the bottom to the top, or otherwiſe oblique in every direction. Each of theſe opinions is ſupported by able and celebrated partiſans. Malphigi, Major, Parent, Mariotte, Lahire, &c. have maintained the circulation of the ſap. Dodart, Duclos, Magnol, &c. advance a contrary opinion. But the proofs furniſhed by either party are not ſuppoſed to decide the conteſt. It appears to me that the partizans of the circulation of the ſap were too much prepoſſeſſed in favour of the analogy which they ſuppoſe to exiſt between the vegetable and the animal economy: they were inclined to believe, without reaſonable grounds, that the circulation of the blood in animals furniſhed a demonſtrative proof of the circulation of the ſap in the vegetable kingdom.

For my part, I am of opinion, that it ſhould lead to a contrary concluſion: if they had compared even the beſt organized plant, a tree for inſtance, with an animal equally well organized after its own nature; as for example any quadruped; on this ſuppoſition, it will be acknowledged that the number, the perfection, and the activity of their reſpective organs are ſo very different, that we ſhall have every reaſon to preſume a vaſt diſſimilarity in the firſt moving principle of the ſolid and fluid parts that compoſe the objects which are drawn into compariſon.

Although a tree may have its birth, its growth, and its decay, and death, like an animal, yet theſe points of reſemblance are diſtinguiſhed by a marked difference in the organization, and the mechaniſm of their bodies: and though it may be eſſentially neceſſary to a tree to be provided with a moving fluid to preſerve its exiſtence, yet we ought not to conclude from that circumſtance, that this liquid circulates like the blood in animals, and that conſequently a tree is furniſhed with parts that correſpond to the heart, and to the arteries and veins, that ſerve as inſtruments and vehicles for the circulation of the blood in animals. In fact, ſimilar parts have never been diſcovered in vegetables. On the ſuppoſition of the circulation of the ſap, it will follow that it muſt make a complete revolution in all the parts of the plant, ſeparately taken, ſince it has been obſerved that a tree does not die when it has been cut down cloſe to the ground, and that a great number of vivacious plants ſubſiſt during the winter, after they have loſt their entire trunks. Beſides the multiplication of plants by ſuckers, layers, and ſlips, would prove that all theſe parts had a complete circulation from the time when they were attached to the plant from which they were removed. It is therefore evident, that the courſe of

the ſap is not a real circulation, but a movement in different directions, which can extend to every part of the plant, and ſubſiſt ſeparately in each. There is no difference of opinion reſpecting the motion of the aſcending and the deſcending ſap. The aſcending motion is the moſt evident: there are ſeveral proofs that eſtabliſh it, ſuch as the progreſſive movement of the ſap to the tops of trees, a great force of ſuction in the roots, the aſcenſion of the tears of the vine in tubes adapted to that plant, the tranſpiration of vegetables, &c. It ſeems that the ſap has leſs diſpoſition to deſcend than to aſcend, and that the productions of the deſcending ſap are weaker and leſs durable than thoſe of the aſcending. It is, however, placed beyond doubt, that the ſap deſcends from the top to the bottom of plants.

It is proved by this circumſtance, that when a tree is planted near enough to two other trees, to be engrafted with them, by means of the contiguity of the branches, as ſoon as the grafts are well formed, we may pull down, or cut the engrafted tree without its decaying, becauſe the two other trees furniſh it, by means of the engrafting, with ſap ſufficient to keep it alive; we muſt therefore conclude that the ſap deſcends into all the parts of this tree, which are placed lower than the branches which are engrafted on it. We have another proof of the deſcenſion of the ſap; when we make an inciſion on the trunk of a maple tree of Canada, in order to extract the lymphatic and ſaccarine liquid which it contains, it will be ſeen that the liquid flows only from the higher part of the inciſion.

If we ſtrip off an entire ring of bark, of the breadth of a few lines, from a branch of a vine one year old, at the beginning of ſpring, a knob or ſwelling takes place at each extremity of the excoriation; but the higher knob is larger than the lower, becauſe it is formed by the deſcending ſap, which is obſtructed in the place from which the bark has been ſtripped. When this happens, that part of the branch which is above the excoriation, is ſenſibly benefited by the ſtoppage of the ſap. The freſh annual coating becomes thicker near the ſcar, and the grapes produced by this part of the branch ripen many days before the reſt, and are much larger than the grapes on the lower part of the branch. The ſame experiment has ſucceeded on the apricot, and ſeveral other fruit trees. Theſe obſervations prove that the ſap aſcends and deſcends in trees and plants; and it has likewiſe been proved that it has a lateral movement. Duhamel attempted an experiment on the body of a young elm, by making two inciſions a ſmall diſtance one above the other, and on the oppoſite ſide, and though theſe inciſions penetrated to the middle of the tree, the ſap aſcended to the top, although the direct and vertical courſe was interrupted by the two inciſions.

Hales took two branches of equal ſize, and made two oppoſite inciſions on one of them; he afterwards immerſed the larger ends of both branches into ciſterns filled with water, and they pumped the water, and both tranſpired in an equal degree. He made this experiment more ſatisfactory and deciſive, by making four inciſions, and placing them on four different ſides, ſo as to multiply the deviations of the ſap, and make it have recourſe more frequently to the lateral direction.

Many other experiments have been tried, all of which concur in proving that the ſap has not only lateral communications, but likewiſe communications in every direction. The facility which the ſap finds in the organization of its veſſels to convey itſelf over every part of the tree, in different directions, has thrown obſtacles in the way of thoſe whoſe inveſtigations were directed towards diſcovering whether the ſap aſcends through the wood, or the bark, or between the wood and the bark. In order to ſolve theſe different queſtions, many efforts have been made, but none have been attended with complete ſucceſs. Duhamel, De la Baiſſe, and Bonnet made experiments on this head by means of injections, by plunging into a liquid, coloured by their lower extremities, branches taken from different plants; they cut off the parts immerſed, and afterwards they cleft the remainder of the branch, in order to ſee to what height, and by what paſſage, the liquid had found its way upwards. In the opinion of Duhamel, theſe injections have proved inconteſtably that the ſap aſcends through the wood in trees, and by the ligneous fibres in plants, and they ſeem likewiſe to prove that the ſap never aſcends through the bark.

Particulars of a Female Swindler at Vienna.

LAST autumn a lady calling herſelf the Baroneſs Von Fittau arrived at Vienna, in a brilliant equipage, attended by four men ſervants, and two maids. She took very elegant apartments, which ſhe furniſhed in ſtyle. All her expences were paid in ready money and in gold. She was preſented at court, and in the firſt circles, as the widow of a Pruſſian colonel, immenſely rich. In November ſhe received a credit from a banking houſe at Hamburgh, upon one of the firſt bankers at Vienna for 50,000 florins. Her expences and inſinuating manners, with a tolerably good perſon, and the character of a widow in affluence, procured her numerous admirers, and a number of ſuitors; amongſt others, ſeveral of the young nobility. She declined, however, all offers of marriage, having determined upon an eternal widowhood, in gratitude for the large fortune left her by her ever regretted huſband. She went regularly to church, and to confeſſion, was irreproachable in her conduct,

and chaſte in her manners and converſation. She was looked upon as a model of virtue and religion, and ſoon became the envy of her own ſex, in becoming the admiration of the other. She was very charitable to the poor, viſited often the hoſpitals, and ſubſcribed largely to philanthropic inſtitutions.

The houſe oppoſite to her apartments belonged to a young man, ſon of a grocer, who had a very high opinion of his own perſon and merit, becauſe his father had left him 300,000 florins. He addreſſed himſelf to one of her ſervants, to have a letter delivered to the baroneſs with an offer of his hand and fortune, but was repulſed with indignity. For a large preſent, the ſame ſervant undertook again, though at the riſk of loſing his ſervice, to carry another letter, which met with a leſs ſevere reception, The baroneſs being ſmitten by the perſon of the young man, whom at laſt ſhe admitted privately into her preſence, and after many prayers, ſighs, tears, and preſents, ſhe agreed to give him her hand next Eaſter; but having refuſed ſo many great people, the young man was laid under ſtrict ſecreſy, and their marriage was to be celebrated at Berlin.

In December laſt ſhe received a letter, importing that her younger ſiſter was promiſed to a Sileſian nobleman. She conſulted her ſecret lover, whom ſhe had perſuaded to believe that ſhe had a fortune of 200,000 florins in the year, about the preſent ſhe ſhould make her ſiſter on her wedding day, and it was agreed they could not be of leſs value than 60,000 florins laid out in diamonds; and as ſhe wanted to chooſe, the young man was deſired to bring 200,000 worth from his uncle, a jeweller, whom ſhe ſaid ſhe would pay in ready money for what ſhe determined to keep.

The diamonds were brought in the evening, and left for her inſpection, until the next day. But when the young man called at the appointed time, the ſervants ſaid their miſtreſs was ill, and could ſee no company before the day after; and when the duped lover then returned, he was informed, that the baroneſs, with one of her female ſervants, had, forty-eight hours before, left the houſe; but previouſly left orders to declare her ill if inquired after, as ſhe was going to the Urſeline Convent to make her devotions. She had indeed been there, but ſwindled the ſuperior of a brilliant croſs of the greateſt value, which the late Empreſs Maria Thereſa had given to the ſtatue of a miraculous virgin, and the baroneſs had borrowed it as a pattern for one ſhe intended to give her ſiſter. She had the ſame day been at her banker's, and, upon pretence of buying jewels for her ſiſter's marriage, had obtained in gold, and in bank-notes for bills on Hamburgh, 100,000 florins more than ſhe had credit for. It has ſince been found out that ſhe had played the ſame tricks at Berlin, Dreſden, and at Naples.

Couriers

Couriers have been ſent every where after her, but in vain; the only information obtained is, that a lady nearly anſwering the deſcription, had embarked in February at Embden, either for England or for America. It is ſaid that her deſolate and deſerted lover is now on his way to this country; and if he can find her out, intends to forgive, and marry her. She is about twenty-five years of age, ſpeaks fluently moſt European languages, has a fine taſte for drawing, and plays the piano-forte in exquiſite ſtile.

Important Deciſion reſpecting Annuitant and Friendly Societies.

A Cauſe of very great importance to all annuity and other ſocieties was lately heard in the court of exchequer; and as the object of the ſuit, and its ultimate event, involve the intereſts of many thouſands in theſe iſlands, we think it an act of kindneſs to theſe uſeful inſtitutions to ſtate as follows:—

The original annuitant ſociety, formed in Worceſter, had agreed to pay the widows of deceaſed members 26l. per annum; and the members themſelves 20l. when they attained the age of 60 years.

The ſociety in the early outſet were unfortunate in loſing ſeveral members; the annuities of 26l. per annum, paid to their widows, made a great inroad into their fund, ſo that they were under the diſagreeable neceſſity of reducing the widows' annuities to 20l. per year.

The demands upon them ſtill increaſing, and perceiving that a long liſt of aged members were in a ſhort period to have claims upon them, which it was impoſſible for the fund of the ſociety to diſcharge without touching upon its capital ſtock, thereby endangering that fabric which had proved the aſylum of ſo many widows and orphans (which but for this provident inſtitution might have wandered upon the world for protection), they came to the reſolution, and made ſuch a law in their books, that no aged member ſhould receive more than 10l. for his annuity, and that, for obvious reaſons—becauſe widows were the firſt object of the inſtitution, the aged members ſecondary; and as the oldeſt member of the ſociety had not paid in the whole 40l. to the funds thereof, this regulation was not approved of by the firſt aged member, who by ſeniority became, according to the original articles, entitled to 20l. per annum; he therefore filed a bill in his majeſty's court of exchequer to compel the payment of that ſum to him.

The cauſe has lately been lately heard before the barons of the exchequer, on which the plaintiff derived every advantage that the moſt able counſel could deviſe; but after a minute inveſtigation of the different rights of the preſent widows, the enſuing aged members, and the younger branches of the ſociety, the court were unanimouſly of opinion, that ſuch had a claim upon their protection; that in theſe ſelf-created ſocieties, the majority muſt at all times bind the minority; or, in other words, thoſe bodies who make laws for the regulation of their affairs, may amend thoſe laws for their better welfare in future.

It would be indeed an extreme hard caſe, if a ſociety ſet out in error, that they may not have liberty to correct their unfortunate outſet, however good their original intention; but it is hoped, that this opinion of the court will put this queſtion at reſt for ever:

Whether or not the majority of a ſociety ſhall bind the minority; which, by the above, ſeems decided in the affirmative.

Obſervations upon the Choctaw, Chickaſaw, and Cherokee Nations of Indians.

ABOUT a mile beyond the Bayau Pierre, (ſays an entertaining traveller) we obſerved a ſmall American fort, or rather ſtockade, and a mile or two of military cut road; and were informed, that the ſoldiery were to recommence opening it farther into the wilderneſs immediately. The rapid population of that neighbourhood, may be eſtimated from this fact; before 1802 there was no houſe, nor white inhabitant on the road through the wilderneſs, farther north than Colonel Burnet's, at the Bayau Pierre; in April, 1803 there were ſmall improvements, and houſes every half mile, for ſeventeen miles north from the Bayau Pierre, to the line of the Choctaw nation, lately over-run by General Wilkinſon.

Near the line between the Choctaw and Chickaſaw nations, at a place called the Pidgeon Rooſt, we found Mr. Paterſon, merchant, of Lexington, Kentucky, wounded. About ten days before, he had been twice ſhot by a Choctaw half-breed Indian. The firſt ſhot or ball had entered above the elbow, and gone out below it: his arm, at the time, being crooked; and the ſecond had penetrated acroſs his breaſt, under the ſkin, but not ſo deep as to be immediately mortal; he had loſt much blood, but was then able to ſit up, and walk a little with the help of a ſtick. He was attended by a phyſician, and nurſed by a Choctaw half-breed, and a white man, under the direction of Mr. Mitchell, agent

agent for the united ſtates, in the Chickaſaw nation. It is ſuppoſed that the Choctaw was moved by revenge for the death of a brother, who had been ſome time miſſing, after being laſt ſeen at Natchez. Their practice being to kill one of the nation ſuppoſed to have killed one of their people—attending only to the national guilt, and not to the individual's guilt or innocence.

On the trace through the Chickaſaw nation, in the neighbourhood of M'Intoſh's—named after a Britiſh agent there, before the American revolution—obſerved a horſe griſt mill, large fields, well fenced and cultivated, abundance of horſes, cows, and hogs; corn and proviſion in great plenty, and here we bought from the Indians the beſt cured and ſweet bacon we found on the road. There are a great many white people in this neighbourhood—among whom the agent acts as magiſtrate, according to the laws of the United States. The half-breed Culberts have great property in cultivated lands and negroes, in this nation. The great military road in the north ſide of the wilderneſs, extends thirteen miles ſoutherly from the garriſon, on the river Tenneſſee, below the muſcle ſhoals.

We reſted two days and a night at the Cherokee's named Doublehead. His town is on the ſouth ſide of the muſcle ſhoals. We underſtood that he ſupplied the American garriſon, below the ſhoals, with beef. Obſerved rapid and ſolicitous advances in civilization. Doublehead had ſuperintended and aſſiſted in the operations. The men of the town worked in a body together, ſimilar to what are called frolics in an American neighbourhood. While we were there, they were making and repairing their fences, which they did very accurately and ſtrongly, with ſubſtantial rails, paying very great attention to the regularity of the worm or angle, and accuracy in laying the rails. They went from houſe to houſe, and field to field, finiſhing every one's fences as they went; abundance of victuals being provided for the company, by the owners of the fields they fence.

They generally carried their blankets with them, and ſlept where they wrought, becauſe of a fine or forfeiture, in caſe of abſence in the morning. We lodged at the houſe of one Skiowſka, Doublehead's own houſe being on the north ſide of the ſhoals. Shiowſka's wife had her kitchen and houſehold furniture in good order; her different ſhelves of plates, bowls, teacups, and ſaucers; copper tea-kettle, and tin coffee-pot. She churned butter in a proper churn, with a daſher and lid; fried meat and baked bread for us; and ſet her table with plates, knives, and forks; but they continue to uſe, eſpecially among themſelves, the large Indian ſpoon.—This woman and her huſband were dreſſed in ſtrong ſubſtantial cloth, ſpun and woven by her.

Aſcending

Aſcending the north ſide of the Tenneſſee, to South-Weſt. Point, forty-four miles below Knoxville, we paſſed large, well-fenced, valuable farms, belonging both to Indians and white-men; ſuch white-men having Indian, or what are called, half-breed wives. They had alſo good ſtock of cattle, horſes, and hogs, and were rapidly adopting the manners and induſtry of the whites. We ſaw a powder-mill in one place, and a ſaw-mill in another. Between Watt's or Will's-town, and Hirvaſſee, lodged a night with a Cherokee, named, to the beſt of my remembrance, Kanilow; who, we were informed, drove to Knoxville, and ſold to a northern drover, 100 oxen or ſteers, ſome of them 16 hands high, at 25 dollars each, amounting to 2500 dollars, which he carried home without ſpending. We were informed, that a half-breed, named Van, had 300 ſteers, which he offered for ſale in three parcels; 100 at 15 dollars; 100 at 20 dollars; and 100 at 25 dollars. He had more than 50 breeding mares.

They are even acquiring the knowledge of tavern-keeping. At Hirvaſſee, after purchaſing ſome corn for our horſes, we aſked for ſomething for ourſelves to eat; we thought they charged us too much; when the landlord deſired the interpreter to inform us, that he could not get it cheap among the white-men.

MEMOIRS *of* BENNET LANGTON, Esq.

BENNET LANGTON, Esq. of Langton, in Lincolnſhire, a gentleman no leſs eminent for his virtues, than his ardent zeal for literature, was one of thoſe happy few, who attain to the higheſt degree of knowledge. He was born in 1736, and educated under his paternal roof. At the early age of 16, having read with the utmoſt admiration Dr. Johnſon's celebrated Rambler, he came to London, chiefly with a view of becoming acquainted with its author. In this he fortunately ſucceeded; and Johnſon being ſtruck with his great piety, love for learning, and ſuavity of manners, conceived a great affection for him. Langton, on the other hand, was charmed with Dr. Johnſon, as he found his notions moſt congenial with thoſe he had imbibed at home.

Soon after this meeting, he proceeded to Trinity College, Oxford, where he put on a commoner's gown. It was in this univerſity that Mr. L. cultivated, and brought to maturity, his natural talents: he made an aſtoniſhing progreſs in the Greek language, which was always his favourite, and in which he arrived at the greateſt perfection.

After a ſpace of ſeveral years he entered the North Lincoln militia; and though ſo extremely partial to the ſtudy of the languages, yet he gave them up for a time, and reſolved to make himſelf thoroughly acquainted with military tactics; and to this effect he exerted himſelf with the utmoſt vigour, and became in a very ſhort time a moſt excellent ſoldier. He acquired the eſteem and admiration of his fellow-officers, not only for his worth and learning, but for his elegant manners, and "an inexhauſtible fund of entertaining converſation," as Boſwell expreſſes it: while at the ſame time he procured the love of the ſoldiers by his mildneſs and humanity. The former was ſo great, that he was never in a ſingle inſtance betrayed into paſſion, or was ever heard to utter an oath.

In 1764, Mr. Langton was choſen a member of the literary club, and at the time of his deceaſe was the only original member remaining. This club, in thoſe days, conſiſted of all the clever men of the age; and among theſe, Langton had the good fortune to reckon as his moſt intimate friends, Sir Joſhua Reynolds, Burke, Beauclerk, Goldſmith, Warton, Garrick, and Chamier; all of whom paid the debt of nature before him.

In 1770, Mr. Langton married the Counteſs of Rothes, widow of the Earl of Rothes, and by this happy union with this lady he had ten children, nine of whom ſurvive him, four ſons and five daughters.

In the year 1784, Langton felt a ſevere affliction in the death of his truly inеſtimable friend, Dr. Johnſon. He attended him conſtantly, and ſoothed ſome of the laſt hours of the life of that great man, by the moſt pleaſing and affectionate aſſiduity. Dr. Johnſon is ſaid to have ſeized his hand, when ſitting by the bed-ſide, and to have exclaimed with warmth,

"*Te teneam moriens deficiente manu.*"

In numerous inſtances he ſhewed his great partiality for Langton; to Boſwell he once ſaid, "I know not who will go to Heaven, if Bennet Langton does not:" I could ſay, "*Sit anima mea cum Langtono.*" How beautiful a compliment! on which ſurely there is no need to expatiate.

In January, 1785, his majeſty appointed Mr. Langton profeſſor of ancient literature in the academy of arts, thinking him the fitteſt perſon to ſucceed Dr. Johnſon.

In the ſpring of 1801, Mr. Langton extremely ſolicitous about the health of one of his youngeſt daughters, and thinking the mild air of Southampton might be beneficial to her, repaired thither with the reſt of his family, where he drew his laſt breath on the 18th of December, 1801.

POPULATION

POPULATION

OF THE

COUNTY *of* DEVON.

From the Lists lately returned by Order of Government.

Chief Places.	*Houses.*	*Males.*	*Females*	*Total Persons.*
Axminster	431	967	1187	2154
Bampton	302	635	729	1364
Barnstaple	653	1495	2253	3748
Bideford	606	1303	1684	2987
Braunton	284	582	714	1296
Brixham	725	1512	2159	3671
Broadclist	419	771	769	1540
Chudleigh	414	812	974	1786
Colyton	289	761	880	1641
Crediton	1093	2102	2827	4929
Cullompton	661	1417	1721	3138
Dawlish	311	637	787	1424
East Budleigh	223	455	559	1014
Exeter City	2728	7142	9685	16827
Exeter County	108	172	399	571
Exmouth & Littleham	432	720	1189	1909
Hatherleigh	219	572	646	1218
Holsworthy	204	505	540	1045
Honiton	557	1083	1294	2377
Ilfracombe	455	728	1110	1838
Kingsbridge	155	498	619	1117
Kenton	330	762	877	1639
Modbury	311	832	981	1813
Oakhampton	269	660	770	1430
Ottery St. Mary	519	1174	1241	2415
Plymouth & Suburbs	4536	18016	25178	43194
Plympton	250	766	796	1562
Sidmouth	258	532	720	1252
Seaton and Beer	295	708	789	1497
Southmolton	572	1180	1573	2753
Sidbury	296	567	666	1233
Totnes	302	1042	1461	2503
Teingmouth E. & W.	478	806	1206	2012
Torrington, Great	374	865	1179	2044
Topsham	477	1217	1531	2748
Tiverton	1322	3001	3504	6505
Tavistock	481	1430	1990	3420
Uffculme	393	828	1009	1837
Remaining Parishes	38458	97985	78065	205350
Total Population, exclusive of Army and Navy	61190	157240	185761	343001

Baptisms & Burials in Devonshire.

Years.	*Baptisms.*	*Burials.*
1700	6710	5772
1710	5562	6126
1720	6223	5862
1730	6411	6617
1740	6180	7549
1750	7386	5719
1760	7605	6560
1770	7647	5984
1780	8530	7823
1781	8759	7004
1782	8515	6788
1783	8321	7666
1784	8979	6908
1785	9318	6655
1786	8842	6093
1787	9120	6030
1788	9543	6289
1789	9355	6318
1790	9459	6258
1791	9084	6509
1792	9724	5775
1793	9550	6848
1794	8924	6531
1795	9370	8753
1796	9044	7125
1797	9659	6712
1798	9668	6708
1799	9942	6902
1800	9582	7252

REFLECTIONS.

THE ſtrong affection of ants towards their young, may teach us to value poſterity, and promote its happineſs. The obedience they pay their reſpective queens, may read us a leſſon of true loyalty and ſubjection. Their inceſſant labours may ſerve to enliven the induſtrious, and to put to ſhame the indolent part of mankind.

HINT *to* YOUNG OFFICERS.

A General officer now in high command, and no leſs juſtly famed for his liberality of ſpirit and urbanity of manners, than for his military and other diſtinguiſhed talents, had laid it down as a rule, that his doors ſhould be locked, and his ſervants quiet in their beds before midnight. A young aid-de-camp, lately arrived in the family, having more than once infringed on this wiſe regulation, the general took the following method to correct him.

One night, or rather one morning, the gentleman arrived, and with a gentle rap, made no doubt of being admitted as heretofore, but what was his ſurpriſe and confuſion when, inſtead of beholding John, he found his general ſtanding before him, with the latch in his hand. The young officer was beginning to make the beſt apology in his power, when the general ſtopped him with ſaying—" Pray, Sir come in, I beg you will not think of making any apology; the fact is, as I knew you were out of the houſe, and that I have, ever ſince I have had the honour of being in this command, made it a rule to ſend my ſervants to bed at twelve o'clock, I was apprehenſive that they might keep you waiting at the door; I therefore thought it beſt to ſit up for you, that you might not ſuffer ſo unpleaſant an inconvenience."

A better leſſon we have ſeldom heard of, and that it produced the deſired effect there can be no doubt.

PHILOSOPHICAL QUESTION.

ALL bodies are expanded by heat, and contracted by cold. Within a certain range of temperature, however, water affords a curious exception to this general law. From 32° till it arrives at 40, it contracts inſtead of expanding; and when boiling water is gradually cooled down, it regularly contracts untill it arrives at 40°, when it reſumes its peculiarity, and is expanded as it is farther cooled. What is the final cauſe of this remarkable deviation from ſo general a law, and by what ſteps does nature effect it?

Anſwer, by H. Humphreys, of Exeter, to E. R. Bickham's Charade, inſerted Jan. 9.

WHEN Mars doth mount his blood-ſtain'd car,
And deſolation wields his angry ſpear;
When gaſping warriors ſtrew the ſpacious ground,
The bloody CUTLASS plainly doth appear.

☞ We have received the like anſwer from T. Rutger, of Clowance; T. Whicker, W. Strong, and R. Holwell, of Exeter; G. Coulman, of Broadhempſton; J. Channon, of Ottery; W. Mann, of Aſhburton; Recluſe, of Awliſcombe; T. Coumbe, of St. German's; A. Kyne, jun. of Dartmouth; and Juventus, of Newton Buſhel.

Anſwer, by J. Rouſell, of Lopen, to J. Paſcal's Enigma, inſerted January 9.

LUXURY, if I am right,
Will bring your myſtic lines to light.

*** We have received the like anſwer from T. Whicker, R. Holwell, and J. Squance, of Exeter; Primroſe, of Taunton; W. Mann, and W. Bickham, jun. of Aſhburton; A. Kyne, jun. of Dartmouth; R. Horſey, of Wellington; G. Holland, of Stoke Abbot; and T. Coumbe, of St. German's.

An ANAGRAM, *by J. B. Bloomfield, of Poole.*

TRANSPOSE a river, and, no doubt,
A liquor, gents. you will find out.

An ENIGMA, *by Recluſe, of Awliſcombe.*

YE youthful bards, attend a while to me,
While I relate my birth and pedigree;
I from my parent earth at firſt am torn,
By prying man, who makes me into form,
As pleaſes him, or as it ſuits him beſt,
Ah cruel! ſure, thus to diſturb my reſt.
The warlike ſoldier, in the bloody field,
Armed with me he makes his foes to yield;
With the aſſaſſin I am often found,
It is with me he gives the deadly wound;
You ſometimes ſay, that like to me are thoſe
Whoſe hearts are harden'd againſt others woes.

A REBUS, *by W. Bickham, Jun. of Aſhburton.*

UNTO my firſt I love to go,
Where you my ſecond hear;
My third's an inſect here below,
For winter doth prepare;
But caſt your eyes over the main,
My next you may behold;
My fifth an herb, Sirs, will explain,
More valuable than gold;
But if you ſearch my ſixth at home,
After my ſeventh pours;
My next, no doubt, will be in bloom;
My ninth ſecures our ſhores;
My laſt protects Britannia's iſle:
And thee my whole, ſweet bard, I hail.

POETRY.

For the WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

AGNES: *Or the* HEART-BROKEN MAID.

THE night it was cold, the wind it was high,
And hollowly paſt o'er the plain,
The lightnings terrific flaſh'd thro' the black ſky,
The thunders from heaven roll'd awfully by,
And faſt fell the ſhowers of rain.

Amid thoſe dread horrors, fair Agnes ſhe went
To the church-yard with ſadneſs and woe;
Her boſom with ſorrow and anguiſh was rent,
And from her torn heart ſhe ſighs frequent ſent,
And her tears did unceaſingly flow.

To the tomb of her Edward the road did ſhe take,
Beneath the cold ſod where he lay,
Who had lov'd her ſincere, and could die for her ſake,
And always in accents of love to her ſpake;
No lovers more conſtant than they.

Alas! cruel fate did their wiſhes deny,
And death cut him off in his noon;
Regretted, beneath the dark yew doth he lie,
And ſtill his lov'd memory oft claims a ſigh,
And tears often ſprinkle his tomb.

But as for poor Agnes, t'depicture her woe,
It baffles deſcription and art,
Pale ſorrow! for ever it ſits on her brow,
Nor ſince the dread moment will ſadneſs allow
One comfort to reign in her heart.

Now the grave of her lover, ſhe reach'd it at laſt,
And threw herſelf on the damp ground:
The loud howling winds quick over her paſt,
The ſcreech-owl ſhriek'd dreadful, and ſharp too the blaſt,
But Agnes, ſhe heard not the ſound.

Heart-broken, ſhe found that her life was to cloſe,
Diſſolution approaching her nigh:
So thus, in the night, from her bed had ſhe roſe,
Unheeding the winds, the froſts, and the ſnows,
And had crept to the grave of her Edward to die.

The morning was gloomy, the ſtorm ſcarcely o'er,
And Agnes, ſhe did not appear.
Aghaſt, her fond mother ran from door to door,
(Her heart with affection and anguiſh was ſore)
To enquire the fate of her dear.

In vain her enquiries—as the church-yard ſhe paſs'd
She beheld her lov'd daughter in death;
Unable to bear it—ſhe groan'd—'twas her laſt,
And in falling her arms round her poor child ſhe caſt,
And embrac'd as ſhe gave up her breath.

A ſwain paſſing by, he with terror eſpied,
A ſight which ſtruck him with dread;

The

The mother and daughter, both ſtretch'd ſide by ſide,
And in the embraces of death cloſely tied,
Their breath for ever was fled.

* * * *

The pale bodies now to the cot they convey,
Awhile 'neath their roof for to reſt;
And then in one grave their ſad relics they lay,
Then with fervour ſincere to God they all pray,
That their ſouls may in Heaven be bleſt.

N. M.

ADDRESS *to an* ASS.

THOU patient drudge! meek intereſting thing!
I ſee thee ev'ry day thy traffic bring;
And welcome all thy wither'd fruits to me,
If by their purchaſe I can cheriſh thee!
I meet thee daily ambling in my walk,
And often wiſh that I with thee could talk;
Yet raſh the wiſh—for I a tale might hear,
That would beguile a ſtoic of his tear.
Thy loaded panniers I with pity ſee,
They ſeem too heavy—by thy bending knee;
And ill thy batter'd ſides their weight ſuſtain,
Yet never by a groan doſt thou complain.
Thy active feet obedient onward paſs,
And ſeldom ſtop—unleſs a blade of graſs,
From ſome near ſpot ſeduce thy famiſh'd ſight,
And tempt thy truant ſteps to ſhort delight;
That ſhort delight, a momentary taſte,
One little mouthful—ſnatch'd with greedy haſte.
But thou haſt ſcarcely gone thus far aſtray,
Ere back thou art whipp'd, and goaded on thy way.
The market is thy maſter's keen purſuit,
And thou muſt periſh if unſold his fruit.

Reflecting then, I gaze upon thy face,
To mark if ſilent anguiſh I can trace.
I ſearch thy eyes, explore thy panting breaſt,
And fancy latent grief by fear ſuppreſs'd;
But no! ſuch meekneſs dwells upon thy brow,
Thou may'ſt be happy, tho' I know not how.
Nay, e'en a ſmile thy features ſeem to ſhow,
Is it ſubmiſſive ſmile of patient woe?
And canſt thou act a counterfeited part,
That know'ſt not, like ourſelves, to practiſe art?
Philoſophy has not thy features dreſs'd,
Or given the virtues on thy face impreſs'd;
Nature, that made thee gentle, meek, and mild,
Reſerves theſe beſt of gifts for miſ'ry's child.

HUMAN LEARNING *and* RELIGION.

MOSES, a child by Pharoah's daughter bred,
Egyptian learning fill'd his youthful head;
But when maturer age had arm'd his heart,
He ſought his countrymen, and took their part;
While human learning charms thy fruitful bram,
Let her inſtructions pleaſe, but not in vain;
Religion, ſtill our guardian, claims our care,
In ſchools tho' learn'd, to quit her tents beware;
Tutor'd by ſcience, ſeek for heavenly reſt,
And leave the princeſs, for thy mother's breaſt.